



Jenny Cornejo  
Resident of East Haven  
Member of Unidad Latina en Acción

In Support of:  
House Bill 5673: AN ACT CONCERNING THE REFORMATION OF CERTAIN  
TAXES AND TAX EQUITY

Dear Senator Fonfara, Representative Horn and members of the Finance Committee:

My name is Jenny Cornejo. I am a resident of East Haven and a member of Unidad Latina en Acción, an organization that fights for the rights of thousands of immigrant and working people in Connecticut. I am also a member of Recovery For All - a statewide coalition fighting for a better future for Connecticut with over 60 community, faith-based and labor organizations.

I am testifying in support of House Bill 5673. As the wealthiest state in the country, Connecticut should be an example for the nation where every family has what we need to live a dignified life.

I tell you my story as one of those workers and students fighting for a better future here in Connecticut. In my home country I studied to be an accountant. Here in Connecticut, due to the excessive cost of public education, I have not been able to become a licensed accountant here.

For the past few years, I have worked preparing taxes for immigrant people here in Connecticut, and I earn minimum wage. It's barely enough to pay rent, and it's impossible for me to pay tuition at a community college.

The state should raise more revenue using the progressive method so that millionaires and billionaires pay more taxes, in order to have a more equitable and just society. If corporations and billionaires would pay what they owe, Connecticut could offer free English classes, free GED classes, and free college for everyone. Am I asking too much, since I myself pay taxes and contribute to Connecticut, the richest state in the richest country in the world?

As a human being, a migrant, and a Latina I was affected by the pandemic. I had COVID in March 2020, and they never wanted to take care of me because I did not have Health Insurance. So many people in my condition died for lack of medical attention.

Healthcare should be a human right, available to all Connecticut residents, regardless of our immigration status. How is it possible that in this state there is enormous wealth, but many of us have no healthcare?

In conclusion, I urge you to pass this Tax Equity legislation. Working women and students like me, all we want is to build a nation, with equal opportunity for all. Thank you for the opportunity to give my testimony.

Jenny Cornejo, East Haven